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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, AS, NZ

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT - AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AFFAIRS

TO: EA - MR. RICHARD HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/ANZ - CHARLES H. TWINING

1. BEEF. THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MARKED UP
A COUNTERCYCLICAL BEEF IMPORT BILL AUGUST 16 WHICH WILL NOW
BE SENT TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE FOR CONSIDERATION. IF THE
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HOUSE ACTS ON IT THIS SESSION, IT WILL THEN HAVE TO GO TO
CONFERENCE TO BE RECONCILED WITH THE SENATE-ADOPTED BENTSEN
BILL. BOTH THE AUSTRALIANS AND NEW ZEALANDERS HAVE BEEN
LOBBYING ACTIVELY AGAINST THE LEGISLATION. THE AUSTRALIAN
AMBASSADOR SENT A LETTER TO ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS MONDAY
ARGUING THAT ADOPTION OF A COUNTERCYCLICAL MEASURE WOULD
CONFLICT WITH GATT'S FREE TRADE PRINCIPLES. NEW ZEALAND'S

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TALBOYS WROTE BOTH THE VICE PRESIDENT
AND THE SECRETARY ON THE SUBJECT AT THE END OF LAST WEEK.
(UNCLASSIFIED)

2. DEPARTURE OF AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR RENOUF.
RENOUF DEPARTS THE US AUGUST 17 FOR MONTH-LONG CONSULTATIONS
IN AUSTRALIA. PRIOR TO LEAVING HE HAS BEEN MAKING A LARGE

NUMBER OF CALLS ON USG OFFICIALS. HIS LAST CALL WAS ON
UNDER SECRETARY COOPER ON FRIDAY, DURING WHICH RENOUF
ASKED ABOUT COMMON FUND, MTN, BEEF AND SUGAR. BOTH
MR. COOPER AND THE AMBASSADOR AGREED THAT OUR AUGUST 28
AVIATION TALKS ARE GOING TO BE DIFFICULT ONES. RENOUF
PROMISED THAT WE WOULD HAVE A RESPONSE ON THE DILLINGHAM
CASE WITHIN THE WEEK. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

3. VISITORS. WE HAVE MET WITH ROB MCLAGAN, CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OF THE FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND, AND
WITH GRAEME JENKINS, NEWS EDITOR OF THE NEW ZEALAND PRESS
ASSOCIATION, DURING THE PAST WEEK TO DISCUSS PRIMARILY
ECONOMIC ISSUES, PARTICULARLY BEEF. IN ADDITION, AUSTRAL-
IAN SQUADRON LEADER GEOFF SCHMIDT DROPPED IN EN ROUTE TO
AN ASSIGNMENT AT THE AIR WAR COLLEGE. (UNCLASSIFIED)
VANCE

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